

ZOLA, NOVELIST AND REFORMER  
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was placed in the study, where much of the novelist's work had been done. And it was there that the unhappy widow found it. But she gave proof of no little fortitude, and speedily signified her wishes and those which she knew to have been her husband's, in order that proper arrangements might be made in the dolorous circumstances which had now arisen.

The tragic character of Zola's death had created a sensation throughout the civilised world. Every day for an entire week the vestibule of the house in the Rue de Bruxelles was crowded with notabilities in literature, science, art, and politics, who came to inscribe their names in the registers. Telegrams, letters, and addresses of sympathy were continually arriving from all parts of France and from well-nigh every foreign country, emanating now from societies and associations, now from eminent men, now too from members of the French and foreign Governments. Wreaths and coronals and other combinations of flowers followed in profusion, and a public subscription was speedily started for a monument in Zola's honour. But the enemy did not disarm. Vile libels were sold on the boulevards. Henri Hoche wrote a foul article in "L'Intransigeant," insinuating that Zola had committed suicide because he had discovered Dreyfus to be really guilty. Edouard Druxmont declared in "La Libre Parole" that the name of

Zola inspired  
horror in all who possessed French hearts.  
"La Patrie"  
shrieked that the dead man had defended  
treason and vilified the flag. The renegade Jews of "Le Gaulois," after  
asserting that he had shown no pity for France, declared,  
"Nevertheless we are Christians, and we therefore hope  
that God will show some mercy to this wretched creature